

NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS

A Permanent Institution

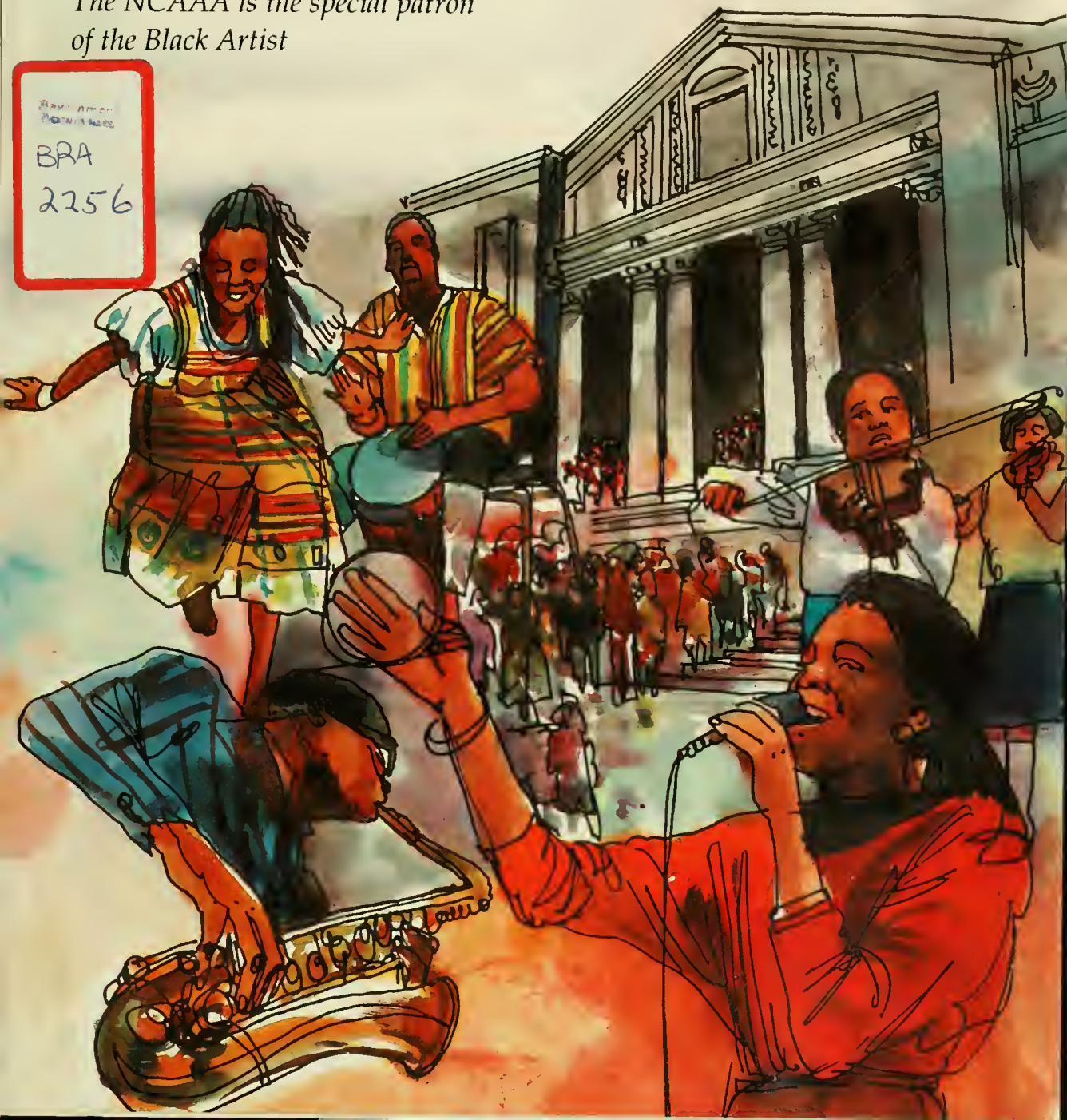
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*The NCAAA is the special patron
of the Black Artist*

Black Artist
Portfolio 1980s

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THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS IS:

A Performing Arts Center: Dramatic productions, Music and Dance concerts will resume in the 1400 seat theatre in the new 78,000 square foot Performing Arts Center to be constructed at 200 Seaver Street overlooking Franklin Park and the zoo. The Performing Arts Center will also house a grand reception hall with a capacity of 1000 for banquets, forums and other special events.



The Museum: The partially renovated former "Oak Bend" mansion with its neo-Gothic facade and much of its original Victorian grounds has been home to the NCAA's Art Museum since 1980. Now it will be restored to its historic elegance. Its interior space must be expanded and adapted to current museum standards, including new security, mechanical, environmental and presentational systems. Its grounds, highlighted by the monumental sculpture "Eternal Presence", will be restored to their earlier splendor.



The Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts: Since 1950, the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts has served Boston citizens of all ages. Its alumni have distinguished themselves in the performing arts internationally. The school's facility at 122 Elm Hill Avenue needs repair and improvements. The NCAAA will now completely renovate and expand the 34,000 square foot building with its studios, auditorium, cafeteria, offices and classrooms. The school will continue to be not only an educational and cultural center, it will also continue to be the hub of forums, receptions and civil programs of community interest.



The Playhouse In the Park: Set in the dramatic ruins of Frederick Law Olmstead's "Overlook Lodge," the NCAA operated a summer playhouse from 1966 until 1977. Once again, this site will become the center of dance, music and dramatic performances delighting audiences of the young and old alike seated on the terraced slopes of the newly redeveloped amphitheatre. As before, the Playhouse will present programs ranging from the internationally known performers to Boston arts groups and ensembles, to its own productions. The redesigned performance shell, appropriate support spaces, provisions for professional lighting and sound, and comfort facilities will fit gracefully into the sylvan setting of beautiful Franklin Park.




Imagine a nation — a world — in which people of diverse cultures live in human harmony sharing their cultural richness. What a wonderful dream! You can help realize this dream by supporting the National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA) advance social healing through cultural understanding and the affirmation of humanistic values.

The National Center of Afro-American Artists is dedicated to fostering and preserving black culture worldwide, with special emphasis on Afro-Americans. It catalogues past achievements and supports present cultural initiatives, thereby assuring an ever richer creative future. It is the institutional patron of the black artist, bringing the dignity and honor of the black heritage to the world.

For over forty years, the NCAAA and its teaching division, the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts, have addressed their educational and cultural mission without an adequate home. Now is the time to build that home and ensure its permanence.





MAKING IT HAPPEN

The NCAAA's strategic plan for its facilities offers a unique opportunity to strengthen black culture by strengthening its institutional base. This will not only benefit black people, it will benefit Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the nation. Cultural understanding in a polycultural society is in the public interest.

Today the opportunity exists to provide much needed resources for the NCAAA, helping it to create a sound financial base: — an endowment fund, support for its ongoing programs, and for appropriate staffing and the renovation and maintenance of its facilities. In broadening support of the NCAAA, many commemorative gift opportunities exist.



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